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S-E-C-R-E-T

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CITE

DIST 13 DECEMBER 1967

COUNTRY DENMARK/NORTH VIETNAM/INTERNATIONAL

DOI 20 NOVEMBER - 1 DECEMBER 1967

SUBJECT 1. ASSESSMENT OF THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL (IWCT) IN

COPENHAGEN BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND THE

NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT. 2. COMMENTS IN THE IWCT CONCERNING AMERICAN PARTICIPANTS

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FIELD NO.

SOURCE

1. UNLIKE THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON VIETNAM, HELD 6 - 9 JULY IN STOCKHOLM, VIETNAMESE REPRESENTATIVES MADE NO COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL (IWCT), HELD IN COPENHAGEN 20 NOVEMBER - 1 DECEMBER 1967, EVEN WHEN DIRECTLY ASKED FOR THEIR OPINIONS. NORTH VIETNAMESE MINISTER OF HEALTH PHAM NGOC THACH SEEMED TO SUM UP THE VIETNAMESE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE COPENHAGEN SESSION WHEN HE STATED DURING THE FIRST TWO DAYS OF TESTIMONY THAT "NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT TO MAKE AN IMPRESSION ON THE AMERICAN PEOPLE".

THE VIETNAMESE REACTION THROUGHOUT THE SESSION WAS POSITIVE TOWARD THE IWCT.

THEY FELT THAT THIS SESSION HAD BROUGHT SOMETHING NEW, ESPECIALLY THE TESTIMONY OF AMERICANS, WHICH HELPED TO MAKE THE TRIBUNAL A VALUABLE TOOL. THEY WERE

ALSO PLEASED THAT THE OCCASION AFFORDED THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE NEW

CONTACTS WITH PERSONS FROM INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF

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2. THE ONLY REMARK BY A VIETNAMESE WHICH COULD BE TERMED ~~ALL~~ CRITICAL WAS ONE WHICH REFERRED TO THE AMERICAN WITNESS DONALD DUNCAN RATHER THAN TO THE IWCT. NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT REPRESENTATIVE NGUYEN VAN TIEN, AFTER DUNCAN'S FIRST DAY OF TESTIMONY, SEEMED A LITTLE SUSPICIOUS OF DUNCAN. TIEN REMARKED BRIEFLY AND IN LOW KEY THAT DUNCAN WAS "NOT TELLING THE TRUTH" AND WAS "AVOIDING THE ISSUE".

3. THE GENERAL REACTION TO AMERICAN JURY MEMBER DAVE DELLINGER WAS ONE OF APPROVAL. DENNIS BERGER IN PARTICULAR HAS MUCH TO SAY ABOUT DELLINGER IN A POSITIVE VEIN: "A NICE CHAP"; "A PERSON WHO IS TRUSTED IN THE UNITED STATES"; "HE HAS A LOT OF INFLUENCE IN THE UNITED STATES". BERGER WAS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT DELLINGER'S PARTICIPATION.

4. REMARKS ABOUT AMERICAN WITNESS PETER MARTINSON WERE GENERALLY LESS ENTHUSIASTIC AND MORE OF A SYMPATHETIC NATURE. ONE OF THE DANISH HOSTS SAID THAT MARTINSON HAD UNDERGONE A PSYCHOLOGICAL CRISIS BEFORE LEAVING THE UNITED STATES AND HAD BEEN ADVISED BY HIS PSYCHIATRIST TO "POUR HIS HEART OUT". THE DAUGHTER OF NORTH VIETNAMESE MINISTER OF HEALTH NGUYEN NGOC THACH SAID SHE FELT THAT MARTINSON WAS RELIEVED AFTER HIS TESTIMONY AND HAD HAD A NEED TO UNBURDEN HIMSELF. GISELE BALIMI MENTIONED THAT MARTINSON DRINKS A GREAT DEAL.

5. FIELD DISSEM: NONE

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